

Longitudinal Cohorts

Dementia Outcome Measures; charting new territory

Awareness and understanding of dementia is changing and services are beginning to respond more positively to people with this diagnosis. This Working Group involves members of a European research network (Interdem) which is concerned with the development and evaluation of non-pharmacological (non-medicine based) interventions to treat, care and support people with dementia post diagnosis.

In 2008 Interdem members published a paper on recommended outcome measures for psychosocial research across Europe. This has been extensively used by research and practice and now requires updating. This is the first task of this group and will result in a published paper which can be freely accessed.

The second task of the group is to identify needs for new outcome measures for clinical practice and for research. Many existing measures do not allow the person with dementia to have a voice so we are looking at how measures need to change and what research might be required. The recommendations of our work will benefit citizens with dementia and those that support them, including services provided by governments across Europe and beyond.

Our final task extends across all activities and is concerned with involving young researchers and enabling them to develop their skills in collaborative European research.

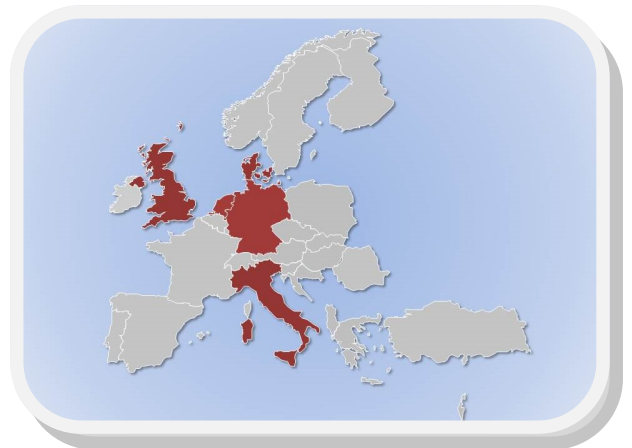
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